

ASA-863-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Y. INABA et al

Serial No. 10/718,699

Group Art Unit: 2175

Filed: November 24, 2003

Examiner: J. Veillard

For: A METHOD OF AND AN APPARATUS FOR RETRIEVING AND
DELIVERING DOCUMENTS AND A RECORDING MEDIA ON WHICH A
PROGRAM FOR RETRIEVING AND DELIVERING DOCUMENTS ARE
STORED

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)
UNDER § 1.97 AND § 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop DD
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 30, 2003

Sir:

1. This IDS should be considered:

(a) when filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or within three months of the filing date of the National Stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

(b) when filed before the mailing date of either a Final Rejection under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first and when 1(a) does not apply. For this purpose, there is included herein either a certification in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box), or a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed, or if not see section 5 below);

(c) when filed prior to the payment of the Issue Fee, when 1(a)-(b) do not apply, and when a certification is included in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box); then the Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) and request(s) consideration of this IDS, and provided herewith is a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the petition fee, or if not see section 5 below).

2. When 1(a)-(c) do not apply, then it is requested that this IDS be placed in the file.

3. Listing of the information submitted is on the attached Form PTO-1449, which forms a part of this IDS. A copy of each listed document is enclosed when needed (needed for U.S. and foreign patents, publication or portion thereof listed; no copy of a U.S. patent application is needed; a copy of a document is not needed when previously submitted or previously cited by the PTO in a parent application of the present application as set forth under 35 U.S.C. § 120).

4. If a fee or additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or additional fee that may be required and credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 50-1417. A duplicate of this sheet is attached.

5. No explanation of relevancy is being provided for the following document(s) because each is either in the English language, discussed in the present Specification, or its relevance is as stated in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

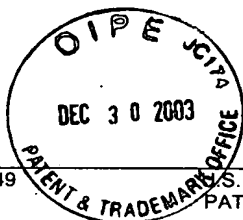
6. If the PTO determines that part(s) of the required content is inadvertently omitted, then it is requested that the Applicant(s) be given additional time and specific identification of such omission(s) to enable full compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. Stanger", is written over the typed name.

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Date: December 30, 2003



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| FORM PTO-1449 (REV. 7-80) | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | ATTY. DOCKET NO. ASA-863-03 | SERIAL NO. 10/718,699 |
| LIST OF DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | APPLICANT Y. INABA et al | |
| | | FILING DATE November 24, 2003 | GROUP 2175 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| * EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE (If Appropriate) |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------|-----------------|-------|----------|---------------------------------|
| | AA 5,168,533 | 12/01/92 | Kato et al | | | |
| | AB 5,051,886 | 09/24/91 | Kawaguchi et al | | | |
| | AC 5,278,981 | 01/11/94 | Kawaguchi et al | | | |
| | AD 5,519,857 | 05/21/96 | Kato et al | | | |
| | AE 5,742,816 | 04/21/98 | Barr et al | | | |
| | AF 5,737,734 | 04/07/98 | Schultz | | | |
| | AG 5,721,902 | 02/24/98 | Schultz | | | |
| | AH 5,717,914 | 02/10/98 | Husick et al | | | |
| | AI 5,675,788 | 10/07/97 | Husick et al | | | |
| | AJ 5,642,502 | 06/24/97 | Driscoll | | | |
| | AK 5,717,913 | 02/10/98 | Driscoll | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | DOCUMENT | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|--|--------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | AL 0 818 741 | 01/14/98 | EP | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | AM 2 336 699 | 10/27/99 | GB | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | AN | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | AO | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | AP | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

| | | |
|--|----|---|
| | AR | A. Aho et al, "Efficient String Matching: An Aid to the Bibliographic Search," COMMUNICATIONS OF THE ACM, June 1975, Vol. 18, No. 6, pp. 333-340. |
| | AS | |
| | AT | |

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|----------|-----------------|
| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.